

H. R. 219.

JANUARY 24, 1821.

Read twice, and committed to a Committee of the whole House
to-morrow.

A BILL

*Supplementary to "An Act relating to the ransom of American
captives of the late war."*

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 the act, entitled "**An act relating to the ransom of American**
4 **captives of the late war,**" passed the first day of March, one
5 thousand eight hundred and seventeen, be so construed as to
6 embrace within its provisions all officers, soldiers, and per-
7 sons attached to, and followers of, the army of the United
8 States, who were captured and made prisoners by the ene-
9 my, and who were ransomed during the late war with Great
10 Britain: and that the proper accounting officer of the War
11 Department be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to
12 adjust and settle the accounts of any person who may have
13 purchased and ransomed from captivity any citizen, officer,
14 soldier, or other person aforesaid, upon equitable principles:
15 *Provided,* the evidence produced in support of such accounts

16 shall be the best in the power of the claimant, and sufficient
17 to satisfy the accounting officer of the justice of the claim:
18 *Provided, also,* That in no case shall a greater sum than one
19 hundred and fifty dollars be allowed for the ransom of any
20 one person.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the
2 duty of such accounting officer, and he is hereby authorized
3 and required, to adjust and settle the accounts of any person
4 who shall have furnished proper and necessary articles of
5 clothing, to and for the use of any citizen, officer, soldier,
6 or other person, purchased and ransomed from captivity,
7 during the late war with Great Britain, aforesaid: *Provided*
8 it shall be satisfactorily proved, and made appear, to
9 such accounting officer, that the apparel and clothing so fur-
10 nished were necessary at the time to the safety, support, and
11 comfort of the person ransomed, and that the articles charged
12 were applied to the clothing of such prisoners, and to no other
13 purpose whatever.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That all sums of mo-
2 ney, to be audited and allowed under this act, and the act to
3 which this is an amendment, shall be paid out of any money
4 in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.